



Paris Ashton Creative Director

As a graphic design and communications expert, Paris Ashton has managed the Virginia Office of Graphic Communications (OGC) for more than 10 years overseeing the office's multiple projects and steering its creative purpose. Established in 1980, OGC is a full-service creative resource that serves state agencies, colleges and universities, local government and non-profit organizations.

Working with the Governors office, state agency representatives, and private partners, Ms. Ashton has been the creative lead for numerous projects and statewide initiatives in the Commonwealth including the creation of the Office of the Attorney General, Virginia Rules Instructor's Kit and website, the Governor's Office New Parent Kit and the Infant and Toddler Connection for the Department the Behavioral Health. She worked with the newly formed Office of the Secretary of Technology to support their strategic communications efforts by designing communication materials that included the agency's strategic plan, technology initiatives and conference agenda. Invited by the Department of the Treasury, Ms. Ashton served as the creative consultant and was instrumental in the design proposals for the Commonwealth's Commemorative Quarter. Her designs were given to the Governor and the U.S. Mint and presented to the public for a vote. More recently, Ms. Ashton served as a member of the Executive Committee for the Civil Rights Memorial Symposium and Dedication. She provided consultation on communication strategy, event planning and fundraising as well as helped to spearhead the creative aspect and design of the informational and promotional materials.

Previously, Ms. Ashton was employed by AT&T Technology Systems, W.M. Brown & Son (a high quality color printing company), and worked with a religious organization and several small marketing firms before starting her career in public service at the Department of General Services. She also established her own freelance design business and has been an adjunct faculty member at VCU's School for the Arts.

She graduated from Virginia Commonwealth University's, nationally recognized School for the Arts, with honors, where she also attended the MFA program. Her continuing education includes business management and processes, marketing and public relations, personnel management, state and procurement policies as well as graphic design training.

She is a member of the Virginia Government Communicators and has been a member of AIGA, the professional association for design. Her work is recognized by AIGA, PIVA (Printing Industries of Virginia), American Library Association and the IABC (International Association of Business Communicators).